

THE TOWN OF MERRIMAC

S6911 State Highway 113 - P.O. Box 115
Merrimac, WI 53561

MINUTES OF THE TOWN BOARD MEETING Wednesday, September 5, 2012

Present were Steve Peetz, Chair, Supervisor John Gaedke, Supervisor Terry Frosch, and Tim McCumber, Town Administrator & Clerk – Treasurer.

Peetz called the **TOWN BOARD MEETING** to order. McCumber confirmed the meeting had been properly noticed. The board considered approval of minutes of the town board meeting of August 1, 2012. Motion by Frosch to approve, second by Gaedke. Motion passed. The board reviewed the financial reports and approval of bills. Motion by Peetz to approve, second Gaedke. Motion passed. Under **PUBLIC COMMENT**, Richard Grant appeared and thanked Peetz, McCumber, and Merrimac Fire for clearing the town roads after the storm last night. He mentioned the fire department is a part of the community and with school districts working to close outlying schools to save dollars, he wants to stress how important the Merrimac Community Charter School and worries that it will be targeted. He noted the administrators have a \$600,000 expense account and that is never reviewed. Craig Hamilton then spoke regarding the schools and noted Merrimac sends amount of money to the district. Grant then spoke to the matter of people violating unwritten rules or unspoken privileges. Specifically, the chicken ordinance that is on the agenda was the result of people with chickens who did not respect their neighbors and let their chickens, turkeys, and goats run loose, thus drawing a complaint. It ended up costing the over \$3,700 and he thinks people should know it cost every house \$9. His point was merely these folks could have been respectful of other people, housed the animals responsibly, and the town did not have to address the matter. Under **CORRESPONDENCE**, a request from the Town of Stark Energy Planning Information Committee to pass a resolution regarding ATC's 345 kV high voltage transmission line; a request from the Merrimac Food Pantry to assist in getting food donations as the shelves are bare – items can be dropped off at the Town Hall, Village Hall, Merrimac Post office, or the Merrimac Community Charter School. Under **REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**, McCumber a preliminary 2013 budget proposal with the cost of a revaluation and no tax levy increase; the Merrimac Food Pantry needs item and McCumber will help coordinate a November 6th Election Day Food Drive for the Merrimac Food Pantry. Jon Gaedke introduced Josh Gaedke who partially completed his Eagle Project by re-staining the handicap ramp with 5 adults, 11 boy scouts, and 4 gallons of stain. Hamilton reported that the Restoration Advisory Board spent their last meeting discussing the minutes and that their members had complaints about the upcoming public hearing the towns are holding regarding the language provided in the notice, but it was nothing that would impact the meeting. Grant reported that the Moon Valley landing had a nest of ground bees and he contacted a pest control company who found someone already sprayed the whole with mosquito repellent. He then reported that the Bob Eagan, EPA representative, postponed the first scheduled meeting as they are waiting to see if the proper procedure for dismissing the current RAB is being followed. Hamilton stated that he spoke with Eagan and that another representative was responsible error. Under **OLD BUSINESS**, the board considered a contract proposal from Equity Appraisal to meet a state requirement to bring all assessment records into compliance with new electronic filing requirement and to consider the need for a possible revaluation in 2013 as tabled last month. Motion to approve \$32,000 contract by Peetz, second by Frosch. Motion passed. Under **NEW BUSINESS**, the board considered a recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission to amend the Town of Merrimac Zoning Ordinance to allow for the keeping of chickens on lots that are a minimum of 1.15 acres up to no more than 4.99 acres may be permitted with certain limitations. McCumber provided a report of the process. A motion was made by Peetz

to approve the ordinance change despite the fact he said he made it clear we should not be addressing this matter at all. Second by Frosch. Motion passed. The ordinance will now be forwarded to Sauk County for final approval. The board next took up a request from Richard Snyder dig under Allbrite Road per Wis. Stat. 86.07 (2) to connect a proposed septic system at tax parcel 026-0863-0000 to a residence located 026-0846-00000, property address S7674 Allbrite Road. Motion to approve by Peetz to allow with the condition they are responsible for any current for future damages that can be professionally attributed to the existence of the pipe and the town will not be responsible if it damages the line, second by Gaedke. McCumber will draft up the conditions.

Motion by Frosch to adjourn. Second by Gaedke. Motion passed.

Town Officers: Steve Peetz, Chair, (608) 225-3110; Terry Frosch, Supervisor, 493-2891; John Gaedke, 356-2301; Supervisor, 493-2891; Tim McCumber, Town Administrator and Clerk-Treasurer, 493-2588 (**please, no calls at residence except for emergencies**). Assessor: Steve Mahlik, Equity Appraisal, LLC, 608/826-0009. Email address: townmerr@merr.com. Building permits are required in the Town of Merrimac. Contact Tim McCumber for permits and zoning regulations (tnadmin@merr.com). Town website: <http://www.tn.Merrimac.wi.gov>. Special Garbage Collection requests to Peterson Sanitation: 608/524-6603.